SECOND SERIES.

Vol. I. September 22nd, 1893. No. 1.

The International Philatelist.

A Monthly for Stamp Collectors.

OFFICIAL ORGAN
OF
THE MONTREAL STAMP COLLECTOR'S CLUB.
AND
THE HOOSIER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

EDITOR AND PUBLISHER:
HENRY ADES FOWLER,
29, SHANNON STREET, TORONTO, CANADA.

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The International Philatelist

with which are combined THE INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIST, with which was consolidated THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF CANADA, THE PHILATELIC FRAUD REPORTER, and ONE DIME. A monthly magazine devoted to the interests of Stamp Collectors.
Published on the 22nd of the month.

RATES OF SUBSCRIPTION:

25 cents a year, post free to any part of the World, and invariably cash in advance.

Subscribers will please mention the numbers in square on the wrapper when renewing their subscriptions or writing about them. X opposite the square denotes that your subscription expires with that number. No more copies will be sent unless a prompt renewal is made

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All copy of Advertisements, Society Reports, etc., must be in by the 15th of the month to insure insertion in that month's issue.

We are always open to purchase good articles and will pay liberal prices for them. Always state price wanted and enclose stamp for return of MSS., in case it is not accepted or unavailable.

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Terms for Name, Address and Specialty in this column: $1.00 for twelve insertions, payable in advance.

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A QUANTITY OF

ST. HELENA STAMPS FOR SALE.

Will trade Rubber Stamps for Old Postage Stamps.

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Rubber Stamp and Stencil Mfr.,

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BEWARE!!

LEWIS BISHOP, J. J. MORGAN, HORACE G. STONE,

are one and the same party, and will likely blossom forth in another quarter in a short time, under a new name.

Notwithstanding the fact that this party has depleted our stock of some of its choicest gems, we are still in the market to supply collectors with any grade of stamp from 1 cent to $20.

Selections of good stamps sent on approval to parties furnishing A 1 references.

Agents wanted to sell from our sheets.

GEORGE A. LOWE,

346, Spadina Avenue, Toronto, Canada. (ok)

THE STAMP BUREAU.

Stamps, or sets, are advertised free to subscribers, subject to the following conditions:

1.—Each lot, accompanied by a stamp addressed envelope (registered if required), mounted and priced on a separate piece of paper, must reach the office by the 15th day of the month.

2.—No doubtful stamp will be accepted, and the manager does not hold himself responsible, he only acting as agent.

3.—A commission of 10 per cent. will be charged if sale is effected. Minimum commission 10 cents per lot.

4.—Purchasers must enclose value of lots, (returnable within four days if not suitable), and postage.

5.—Lots not sold within six weeks of publication will be returned, unless other instructions are sent.

6.—All cheques, money orders, etc., to be made payable to Henry Ades Fowler.

LOT		
1.	Newfoundland 1866, 5c., brown, used, very fine,	$3 75
2.	Canada 1875, 8c., registration, used, very fine,	1 25
3.	Canada 1870, 3c., laid paper, used,	1 50
4.	Cape of Good Hope 1853, 4p., blue, unused, perfect,	70
5.	Newfoundland 1866, 13c., orange, unused,	50
6.	United States 1861, 5c., brown, unused,	50
7.	United States 1868, 3c., grill, 13 x 16 mm, pen marked,	4 50
8.	United States 1868, 10c., grill, 11 x 13 mm, unused,	70

The International Philatelist.

TORONTO, CANADA,

SECOND SERIES. SEPTEMBER 22ND, 1893. VOL. I., NO. 1.

A Successful Philatelist.

"Nothing succeeds like success," and this familiar adage is as applicable to stamp collecting and stamp collectors as it is to anything else in this world. A few elementary principles or rules are necessary for a collector to be what can truly be termed "A Successful Philatelist."

He must be a man with considerable of what is well expressed in the term, stick-at-it-iveness. A collector who collects by fits and starts, and is all alive one week and very much otherwise the next, will fall very far short of the mark. Better go at it in a mild way and steadily than be a "fits and starts" collector.

This wonderful genius they call a Philatelist, must also be a very industrious man, although our hobby is usually looked upon as a pleasant pastime, yet considerable labor and pains are necessary in order to acquire a good collection, keep it in good shape, and at the same time glean all the knowledge and information you can from the same.

Another point to be remembered is neatness and precision in everything. An orderly, well-kept collection is a pleasure to its owner and to all who may have the privilege of seeing it, but when you have half your stamps hinged in fairly straight, and the remainder fairly crooked, combined with a good assortment of bad specimens, the effect is far from pleasing.

Never attack your stamp collection when in a bad humor. Every hobbiest, it matters not what his hobby be, should make the moments spent in the pursuit of his hobby, some of his happiest, and if you associate your stamps with your darker hours, you may be unconsciously hoarding up heartaches and bitter memories that at some time may cause you to wish you never made a collection of stamps.

Another important duty is to keep up with the times. In order to do this, you must carefully peruse the literature of the times. Read as many philatelic papers as you can get hold of; if you cannot afford to subscribe to all of them, you can generally borrow from fellow-collectors.

Above all things be honor itself in all your dealings. The most miserably despicable mortal on the face of this earth is the dishonest Philatelist, no matter what method of dishonesty he practices. If you do not want to be in this class, never allow the least shade to enter into any of your philatelic transactions.

Some of the foregoing rules or principles, term them as you may, will probably seem rather unnecessary to many. When, however, you take into consideration the fact that three-quarters of the stamp collectors of to-day are of the age when habits, good or bad, are generally formed, it will easily be seen that good principles lived up to in the keeping of a stamp collection, may effect in possibly more than a slight measure, the methods used and the habits necessary for the more serious things of life.

"JEP."

Editorial.

It will be noticed that the sole interest in, and management of, THE INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIST has been acquired by the Editor and Publisher of *The Canadian Journal of Philately*, who will in future issue it monthly as usual. Among the new features will be those which particularized the publications, *One Dime* and *The Philatelic Fraud Reporter*, both of which have been also acquired by us.

Whilst this combination lessons the number of the smaller publications, we think it a move in the right direction. The advantages both to subscribers and advertisers, whose contracts with above mentioned publications we shall fulfill, will be much increased, as THE INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIST will be sent to all subscribers on the list of each publication, much increasing the interest as well as circulation.

Although we do not undertake in THE INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIST to supply our readers with the high-class literature aimed at in *The Canadian Journal of Philately*,

articles by the same writers will be found in its columns, our endeavor being to supply a newsy and valuable philatelic magazine at a popular price within the reach of all.

In this connection we may state that those receiving their wrappers stamped "The I. P.," "The P. F. R.," or "One Dime," will know that the copies are sent in filling their present subscriptions to those papers.

We solicit a renewal of those subscriptions which are expiring, and which are denoted by an X in *blue* beside the name of the journal stamped on the wrapper. Advertisers will find it to their interest to maintain their patronage in our columns.

To those that receive this magazine marked "sample copy," we respectfully solicit their subscription.

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For the convenience of those who wish to complete their files of the papers which are combined with THE INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIST, and also files of the old *International Philatelist*, we have on hand a few back numbers, which can be obtained, as will be advertised in our next and succeeding numbers.

***

The new eight cents stamp of the Dominion of Canada is out. We purchased one of the first issued, and felt great disappointment at its mean appearance. The type is the same as those of the lower values of the present issue, but with the head to the left. We hoped to have seen the type of 1893, twenty cents and fifty cents carried out in thst stamp, particularly as it was issued for use as a postage and registration label combined. Possibly the wave of economy now enforced on so many of the citizens has struck the public offices, and they are saving on paper.

***

In consequence of our purchasing *One Dime* we are the official organ of The Hoosier Philatelic Society, and the members will receive THE INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIST instead of *One Dime* as formerly, and their copies will be marked "The H. P. S."

Mr. Charles W. Peugh, the Secretary-Treasurer of that Society, through pressure of business, not having time to attend to his office, the President has appointed Mr. Henry Ades Fowler in his place for the unexpired time. All correspondence relating to this Society should in future be addressed to him.

***

Among the recent visitors to our sanctum we had the pleasare of welcoming Mr. L. M. Stæbler of London, Ont., Ralph W. Ashcroft of Philadelphia, Pa., and Clifford W. Kissinger of Reading, Pa., enthusiastic philatelists, and all men of knowledge and push, and strange to say, all three *publishers!* Such visits are the sweetening in the editorial life.

The devotees of the really "gentle art" should bear in mind how much pleasure it gives us to exchange ideas, knowledge and views on our fascinating pursuit with those of kindred tastes, whenever the opportunity offers of their so doing they will always be welcomed. The more the merrier.

***

With the last two persons mentioned above, we left Toronto one Sunday morning on the hazardous expedition of going to Chicago, and we have arrived home safely again (thanks to our guardian angel), after having attended the conventions of the American Philatelic Association, the Sons of Philatelia, the United Philatelic Association, the American Numismatic Association, etc. We also "took in" the Fair. We were very much pleased with the way we were treated by our Chicago brethren, and should they ever come to Toronto, we shall endeavor to do likewise to them.

***

From a reliable European source, we learn that the Governors of the French Republic are not satisfied with the symbolism on their stamps, thinking that whilst Mercury signifying spread of news is all right, his companion, supposed to represent Minerva, in no way embodies any idea of their republic. We may look for a new issue in the near future, and should this idea be extended to the stamps of the colonies, what an album France and her dependencies will demand! Is it possible that the polite people are jealous of the ascendancy of the United States in the matter of members in the stamp way?

We notice in several of our contemporaries a small advertisement or in some cases an exchange notice, calling for pen-marked specimens only, of certain U. S. stamps and we do not see how it is that the editors of these papers would allow of such an advertisement being inserted in their columns. These are the flourishing times for the fakir and swindler and the reason is obvious why they advertise for stamps in that condition.

***

It is astonishing the numberless errors that appear in the papers during the summer. Perhaps it is because the heat is so oppressive that the proof readers cannot set their minds thoroughly on the subject or they look over it too hastily.

In number four of *The Philatelist* now in front of us we note that "Philatelist" is spelled no less than three different ways in the headings to the pages alone. Here they are: "PHILATETIST," "PHILALELIST" and "PHITATEEIST." Another paper has "August" spelled "Augest."

***

As sure as the stamp seasons come and go, so does the stamp dealer with his unsolicited approval sheets. "*Leila.*"

On the eve of going to press we are the recipients of an unsolicited approval sheet of stamps from a stamp dealer with his office located not a thousand miles from New York City, who has for several seasons past been in the habit of sending out his approval sheets, unsolicited, broadcast over the country. This season he has begun his operations a trifle earlier than usual and we think that now is the time before the season advances too far, that an effort should be made to do away with this nuisance to collectors, and if every philatelist, whom he plagues with his sheets, were not to return them, although the required postage is enclosed, we think he would soon stop doing it as the majority of the sheets he sent out would never be returned to him, and he would at last come to the conclusion that it didn't pay. The stamps on the sheet that we received were mostly remainders, reprints, and such trash as would naturally be handled by such a dealer.

There are other dealers who also have this same "freak" of sending out their sheets unsolicited, and do to them as to others, by not returning their sheets, and it will soon be stopped.

***

The provinces of Australia are contemplating a confederation, and are only waiting on the decision of one or two provinces before it takes effect. They are taking as their model the Dominion of Canada, and in the near future we may expect one set of stamps to take the place of the present issues of these colonies. Our albums of the future will have but the one heading, "Australia," to denote the existence of all these British colonies. The confederation is to include New Zealand also.

***

To those collectors who are thinking of joining a good society, we would heartily recommend to them The Canadian Philatelic Association, and we will be pleased to furnish them with an application blank, on request. The exchange and other departments are in good working order. The dues are only $1.00 a year. Who is the one that will be the first to respond to this little notice? Let us hear from you!

***

We recently received some clippings from New Zealand, addressed simply "Editor, Philatelic Magazine, Canada," and it came direct to our office without any delay whatever. This will give our readers an idea of the popularity of our magazine.

***

We were nearly forgetting the fact that THE INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIST was elected to the official organship of "The Montreal Stamp Collector's Club," and we herewith tender our thanks to *all* the members of the club (for it was an unanimous vote that was cast for us), for electing it as their official organ. The members receiving their copies marked "The M. S. C. Club," will know that we are fulfilling one of our duties to the best of our ability.

The Hoosier Philatelic Society.

ORGANIZED JUNE 10th, 1892.

President.....F. E. Nash, Fort Wayne, Ind.
Vice-President.....J. D. Bartlett, S. Amboy, N.J
Secretary-Treasurer, Henry Ades Fowler, 29, Shannon St., Toronto, Can.
Librarian.....E. J. Kappler, Brightwood, Ind.
Exchange Superintendent, E. E. Ashley, 57, Harrison Ave., Taunton, Mass.
Auction Manager.....Rob. Meeks, Farmland, Ind.
Attorney.....Rob. Meeks, Farmland, Ind.
Purchasing Agent.....Chas. Webster, Meriden, Conn.
Trustees.....C. W. Peugh, Kossuth, Washington Co., Ind.
.....Rob. Meeks, Farmland, Ind.
.....H. Van Trump, Rochester, Ind.
Official Organ.....THE INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIST.

SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT.

APPLICATIONS.

Roy F. Green, Arkansas City, Kansas. References: H. Van Trump, D. C. Greene.
W. Franklin Slusser, Rochester, Ind. References: C. W. Peugh, H. Van Trump.
Moscoe Tucker, 609, Washington St., Connersville, Ind.
References: C. W. Peugh, A. J. Reynolds.
Harry Ormston, 256, 2nd Ave., So., Minneapolis, Minn.
References: D. D. Farnsworth, C. W. Peugh.
Mortimer Searles, 123, Union St., New Bedford, Mass.
References: E. E. Ashley, A. L. Dean.

NEW MEMBERS.

53.—Fraser Brown, 112, Elm St., Albany, N.Y.
54.—W. W. Kemper, 116, W. Adams St., Muncie, Ind.
55.—Ed. C. Ives, 1217, E. Monroe St., Springfield, Ill.

The above members will be entitled to membership cards on receipt of their annual dues.

I would earnestly request that every member send me his correct address on a postal card, as at present the affairs in this particular are rather muddled. In my next report I shall give a full statement regarding membership, balance in treasury, etc., up to time of my taking over the books of the former Secretary-Treasurer. All honest philatelists are cordially invited to join our flourishing Society. Initiation fee, 5 cents; dues only 25c., a year, and members receive this paper every month free of charge.

If you wish to join send your initiation fee to the Secretary and receive an application blank by return mail.

HENRY ADES FOWLER,
September 15th, 1893. Secretary-Treasurer.

Correspondence.

QUEBEC, CANADA, August 24th, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—At the Sixth Annual Convention of "The Canadian Philatelic Association," held in this city on the 23rd instant, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—

President.....Ernest F. Wurtele, Quebec, Que. (Re-elected.)
Vice-President.....W. Kelsey Hall, Peterborough, Ont.
Secretary-Treasurer.....T. S. Clark, Belleville, Ont. (Re-elected.)
Exchange Superintendent.....C. C. Morency, Quebec, Que.
Librarian.....A. E. Labelle, Montreal, Que. (Re-elected.)
Counterfeit-Dectector.....Henry Ades Fowler, Toronto, Ont.
Trustees.....Dr. C. E. Cameron, *Chairman*, Montreal, Que.
J. E. Schultze, Montreal, Que., W. Patterson, Montreal, Que.
Official Organ.....*The Canadian Journal of Philately.*

Yours, very truly,
ERNEST F. WURTELE, *President.*

The Montreal Stamp Collectors' Club.

ORGANIZED MARCH 22ND, 1893.

President, F. W. Wurtele, 217, Commissioners St., Montreal, Que.
Vice-President, Henri Lionais, P. O. Box 957, Montreal, Que.
Secretary-Treasurer, Ed. H. Jaques, 4, Stanley St., Montreal, Que.
Exchange Superintendent., C.W. Stanton, 400, St. Andre St., Montreal, Que.
Official Collector, A. R. Vallee, P.O. Box 1772, Montreal, Que.
Librarian, J. A. Boucher, 49, German St., Montreal, Que.
Reporter to Official Organ, John Edwards, 52c, Latour St., Montreal, Que.
Executive Committee, A. E. Labelle, 212, St. Hubert St., Montreal, Que.
C. J. R. Stirling, 56, University St., Montreal, Que.
A. A. Simpson, 131, Alexander St., Montreal, Que.
D. S. Noad, 2494, St. Catharine St., Montreal, Que.
Official Organ, THE INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIST.

The fifth regular meeting was held June 29th at the Hope Coffee House, the following members being present:

J. A. Boucher,	H. Lionais,	A. R. Vallee.
J. Edwards,	S. H. Martel,	F. W. Wurtele,
H. Heywood,	J. Oswald,	Wm. McKee,
J. N. Laperle,	D. S. Noad,	H. S. Harte,
	and Ed. H. Jaques.	

The meeting was called to order at 8.30 p.m. The roll was then called and the minutes of the last meeting read. It was proposed by Mr. Boucher and seconded by Mr. Lionais, "That these minutes be adopted."

This motion was carried unanimously.

Further discussion on the motion "That the club get badges" that was proposed by Mr. St. Jacques and seconded by Mr. Simpson, was left over to the next meeting on account of the absence of both the mover and seconder of the motion.

Some donations were then made to the Club:—Mr. Lionais gave a number of philatelic papers to the Library and Mr. Harte gave a set of New Brunswick 1860 to the Official Collection.

The nominations for membership that were received at the 4th regular meeting were then voted on with the following result:

R. F. McRae, elected. Edgar Nelton, elected.

It was proposed by Mr. Lionais and seconded by Mr. Oswald "That the Club shall have no more meetings till the early part of September." This motion was carried.

The meeting then adjourned at 9.30 p.m.

The following members then paid their subscription to the Official Organ:

J. Oswald, S. H. Martel, H. Lionais,

and for three months dues Mr. Laperle.

Constitution.

Article I.—This Society shall be called "*The Montreal Stamps Collector's Club.*"

Article II.—The object of the Club shall be the promotion of stamp collecting, to bring together those interested in stamp collecting, to form a library and official collection, to protect its members from fraud and to expose dealers in counterfeits.

Article III.—(*a*) The officers of the club shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary Treasurer, an Exchange Superintendent, an Official Collector and a Librarian. (*b*) These officers and four members shall constitute an Executive Committee.

Article IV.—The Election of Officers and Executive Committee shall take place annually at the annual general meeting of the Club, and shall enter upon their duties immediately.

Article V.—The Club shall establish for its government such By-Laws as may be deemed necessary.

Article VI.—No change shall be made in this Constitution unless by a vote of three fourths of the members present at a meeting of the Club, notice of such proposed change having been submitted in writing at the previous meeting; the notice calling the following meeting shall state the nature of the proposed change.

By-Laws.

CHAPTER I.—Of Members.

Article 1.—The membership of the Club shall comprise Ordinary, Life, Corresponding and Honorary members, and shall hold certificate to that effect.

a. Ordinary members shall be those who pay the quarterly subscription of twenty-five cents, in advance.

b. Life members shall pay ten dollars ($10.00) in four instalments.

c. Corresponding members may be elected from non-residents, and shall pay fifty cents yearly in advance.

d. Honorary members shall comprise benefactors of the Club.

Article 2.—Any candidate for membership shall be proposed and seconded by two members of the Club and ballotted for at the next meeting, one negative vote out of ten shall defeat his election.

Article 3.—Ordinary and life members only have a right to vote and hold office.

Article 4.—Members in arrears shall not be entitled to the privileges of membership until they shall have paid their dues.

Article 5.—A member over one year in arrears may be struck off the list and expelled from the Club.

Article 6.—Any member may resign his membership, provided all his dues to the Club have been paid to the date of his resignation.

CHAPTER II.—Of Officers.

Article 1.—The President shall occupy the chair at the meetings, preserve order, and enforce the Laws and Rules of the Club. He shall decide all questions of order. He shall give the casting vote and shall annually at the annual general meeting, make a report embracing the affairs of the Club in general. He shall call special meetings of the Club when he thinks proper, or when asked to do so, in writing by three members of the Club. He shall ex-officio form part of Committees.

Article 2.—It the absence of the President, the Vice-President, or in his absence, a President *pro tem*, shall occupy the chair.

Article 3.—The Secretary-Treasurer shall receive and take charge of the funds of the Club, and shall deposit same in a chartered Bank; he shall attend to the collection and payment of monies; no payments shall be made by him unless it has been approved by the President; he shall keep a detailed statement of all receipts and expenditures to be laid before the Club's annual meeting.

At this meeting he shall also exhibit all the books, vouchers, etc., and the names of all the members who may have neglected to pay their contributions or fees. He shall also take and preserve minutes of the proceedings of the club, preserve all documents belonging thereto; give notice of meetings, notify members of their election and committees of their appointment; he shall keep a correct list of the members, with the date of their election, resignation or death. He shall conduct and preserve the correspondence of the club; he shall keep copies of all letters written on business of the club; and shall read at each meeting, the minutes of the preceding meeting. He shall read the reports of committees and conduct all elections of members under the direction of the presiding officer.

Article 4.—It *shall be the duty* of the Exchange Superintendent to receive exchange sheets from members and place them on circuits, no member being allowed to keep sheets more than three days and they must fully prepay postage and registration fee to the next name on circuit.

Members must remit promptly for any balance due the exchange department, when called upon to do so, and the Superintendent shall be requested to return sheets to the owners with amount due at least once in every three months.

Article 5.—It shall be the duty of the official collector to take charge, in trust, of the club's official collection, and class and arrange, in the album provided for that purpose, all stamps received.

Article 6.—The Librarian shall take charge of the library and shall report to the club on the condition of the same, at the annual meeting. He shall make out a detailed catalogue of all books belonging to the club, inserting the name of each donor. Members of the club only shall have access to the library, but each member shall have the privilege of introducing a friend.

Article 7.—It shall be the duty of the Executive Committee to investigate all cases of infraction of the Constitution and By-Laws by any officer or member, and to report the result of such investigation, at the first succeeding meeting of the club.

CHAPTER III.—Of Elections.

At the annual meeting of the club, the respective officers and the Executive Committee shall be elected separately by ballot, members may vote by proxy, no member to hold more than three proxies. A majority of votes cast being in each case necessary to an election.

The officers are to hold office for the term of one year, and until their successors are elected.

CHAPTER IV.—Vacancies.

In case of death or resignation of any officer, the Executive Committee is empowered to call a special election to fill the vacancy.

CHAPTER V.—of Meetings.

Article 1.—Meetings of the club shall be held every three weeks throughout the year, and at such other times as the president may direct, or three members may request in writing; the precise day, hour and place shall be determined by the President, who will instruct the Secretary to notify members of it in writing.

Article 2.—Each member shall have the privilege of introducing a friend at the meetings of the club.

Article 3.—At the ordinary meetings of the club, the following order of business shall be observed, viz:—

1. The chair shall be taken at 8 o'clock p.m.
2. Members present noted by the Secretary.
3. Minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed.
4. Business arising out of minutes.
5. Contributions and donations received.
6. Written communications.
7. Verbal communications.
8. Proposal of new members.
9. Election of members.
10. Lectures, essays and discussions.
11. Exhibits.
12. Announcement of the paper for next meeting.
13. Place of next meeting fixed.
14. Adjournment.

CHAPTER VI.—Quorums.

Ordinary meetings six, majority *simple*, special meetings to alter constitution or By-Laws, twelve, majority *three-fourths* Executive Committee, four, majority *simple.*

CHAPTER VII.—of the by-laws.

Any proposition to alter or amend these By-Laws shall be submitted in writing at one meeting and voted on at the next meeting, when upon receiving the votes of three-fourths of the members present, it shall become part of the By-Laws, or be rejected.

Diamond Cut Diamond.

"My friend Chittenden, like myself is a rabid philatelist. He has one peculiarity. He is addicted to relating the most improbable of stamp stories, and sometimes the same story over and over again; in fact he tells them so often, that I really think he

believes them himself and as I am growing tired of hearing them, I am going to find if I cannot beat him at his own game or its a case rather of "Diamond cut diamond." Ah! here he comes now!"

"By the by, Murray, did I ever tell you how I came to collect stamps?" said he, and before I had time to answer that he had told me dozens of times, he continued, "Well, I must tell you of it. You know a few years ago I was an autograph collector. One day, a lady knowing of my hobby, presented me a letter written to her husband. by president John Tyler. It was in the original envelope and dated June 16th, 1845, New Haven, Ct. Of course I was very proud in the possession of such an autograph, for, as perhaps you know it is a very rare signature."

"That evening, I brought it forth for the examination of a friend collector. He duly praised and admired it, but his attention seemed attracted toward the envelope, in which the letter had been sent. Finally he asked me what I would take for the envelope, and I magnanimously gave it to him as he said he wished the stamp on it, as he was also a stamp collector."

"At that time, I knew nothing about stamps, but soon after became an enthusiastic collector and one day, I thought of the stamp I had given my friend, and found upon research that *it was a New Haven provisional.* Wasn't I angry? I demanded the return of he stamp but my supposed friend flatly refused to do so, and of course as I had given it to him, I could do nothing." "How I wish I had that stamp" and Chittenden sighed dolefully.

I cautiously inquired what became of the stamp. "There's where I got my revenge. You see, my friend (?) went over to England and when returning he sailed in the Pacific, a Collins liner, in January, 1866, and which was never heard of again."

After a short silence, I thought it my turn to begin.

"Well, Chittenden, I can tell a better lier—story than that. As you know I was in the Civil War, enlisted in the 21st Illinois Volunteer Infantry. In February, 1862, we occupied Memphis upon its evacuation. I still kept up my interest in stamps, and as soon as I was off duty, I made for the post-office. After some search, I found it, deserted and silent. We soldiers didn't stand on ceremony in those days, so I repaired to the middle of the street, picked up a brick, smashed in the window and entered. Passing through the main room, I entered the office and began my search for stamps, and what do you suppose I found?" Looking around at Chittenden, I found that he was 'all attention,' his eyes bulging out, and as big as saucers, his lower jaw dropped and breathing in short, quick gasps. Recovering himself he managed to murmur "I don't know I'm sure."

"Well sir," I continued "I hauled out of that office about thirty sheets of the five cent and twenty sheets of the two cent value, a lot used on envelopes, ready to be sent out, for you see, we came in so suddenly, they didn't have time to send out a mail they had made up. I mailed all the stamps home, using some unused United States stamps that were in the office, and also kept what I didn't use, about thirty or more, including two of the ninety cent value."

"All through the war, I kept on the look out for stamps and secured many Confederate provisionals, including quite a number of Columbia and Charleston, S.C. envelopes. In fact, I think I had as nearly a complete lot of stamps of this kind as was ever seen."

Upon looking around for Chittenden, he was nowhere to be found, until glancing under the table, I found him, gasping for breath. However he speedily revived and I took him home for repairs.

A week afterward I met him on the street, and stopping me he inquired "Say Murray, you never told me what became of those Confederate provisionals?" "Well, the folks at home; you know I lived in southern Ohio then, studied over the stamps and, as wall paper was awful scarce then, they concluded to use the stamps, as they were of such pretty design, and they supposed the stamps were of no value to me. And the envelopes, they were given to the neighbors, and were used up by the family."

"They simply put one of our United States stamps over the Confederates stamp, and sent them off." "Is that satisfactory?" It was and I sincerely hoped he would trouble me never more.

He never did.

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